Canons of Construction

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JULIAN FALCONER: REINING IN CANADA'S ANTI-TERRORISM ACT

ALICE WONG (2L)

Torture: 'any act or omission by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for a purpose including obtaining from the person...information or a statement, punishing the person for an act the person or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, and intimidating or coercing the person...or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind...'

That was section 269.1(2) of the *Canadian Criminal Code*. For all those who can't be bothered to sort through that long sentence, let us consider a more tangible example: Maher Arar.

On September 26, Mr. Julian Falconer a University of Alberta alumnus and Arar's civil litigator presented a lecture to our Faculty. Calm and yet visibly impassioned, Mr. Falconer effortlessly held the interest of a packed lecture hall as he walked through the case that drew international attention to the practical consequences of democracy's newest creation: Bill C-36, also known as Canada's Anti-Terrorism Act.

The Arar case is one about which many of us have heard. Mr. Arar's 20-minute lunch with Abdullah Almalki, a Syrian-born terrorist suspect, led to his designation as a 'person of interest,' which then inexplicably escalated to the point whereupon both Arar and his wife were entered into the largest American computer database watch list. He was subsequently detained, an "Islamic extremist with significant or suspected links to al-Qaeda terrorist organization." A chain of events culminated in thirteen months of solitary confinement in a six-foot long, three-feet wide and seven-feet high Syrian prison cell while U.S. and RCMP officials sent a list of questions for which they wanted answers, to a government known for its routine use of torture.

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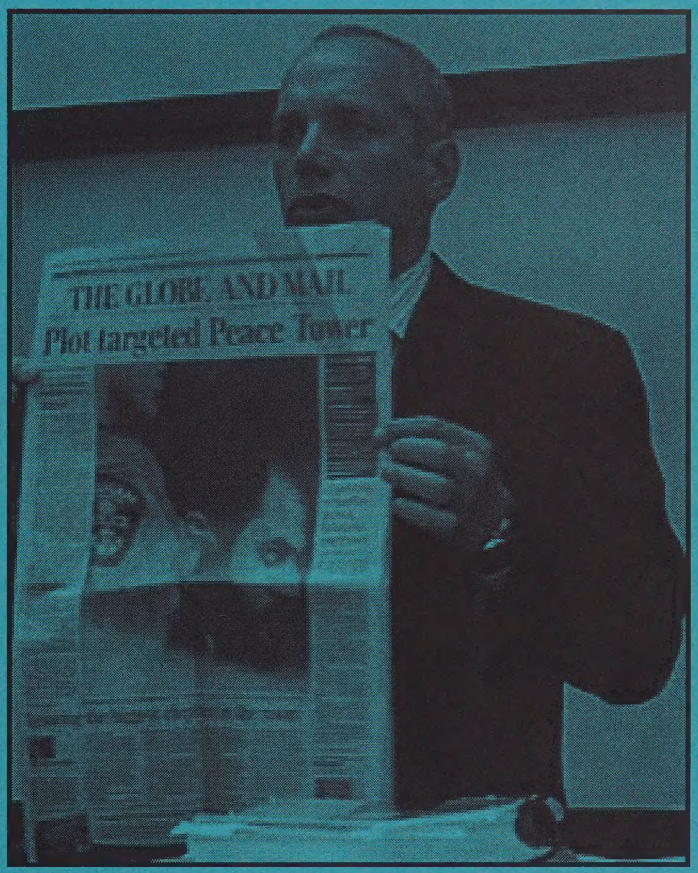

DID SOMEONE SAY SOMETHING?

NAYHA ACHARYA (2L)

On September 21, 2006, the McLennan Ross Hall was filled to its brim to hear the Honourable A. Anne McLellan speak on "The Challenges of Security in an Open Society." It was the 18th Annual McDonald Lecture organized by the Centre for Constitutional Studies (CCS). CCS, an institute of the Faculty of Law, is indispensable in facilitating the exchange of information between the Faculty of Law, the legal community and the general public as a result of the widely appealing topics they bring to the forefront for discussion, as well to their other projects and outreaches. The McLellan lecture, not surprisingly, was no exception. The audience ranged from people in jeans and t-shirts to suits and ties, but everyone was there for the same reason - to hear an excellent

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FALCONER: REINING IN ANTI-TERRORISM

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Aware that some still believe that there must have been some reason to justify such actions, Mr. Falconer started off by emphasizing that after a two-plus-year inquiry, "Maher Arar was completely cleared. The finding of Justice O'Connor is that he's no more guilty than you or I of, not just of an offense, but of the threat of an offense."

It is incumbent to mention here that a week after the report was released, RCMP Commissioner Zaccardelli publicly apologized to Arar for the "terrible injustice [he] experienced." However, as Mr. Falconer quietly put it, people will always believe that where there's smoke, there's fire. One wonders if the residual smoke enshrouding Arar will ever truly be lifted.

A point that was repeatedly brought was that what happened to Arar was a natural consequence of the expansion of power granted under Bill C-36. This piece of national security legislation was not only passed a mere 30 days after the 9/11 attacks, but also granted peace officers some of the most extraordinary powers ever: the ability to stop terrorist before they commit the crimes. These preventative measures included the formation of Project A.O., a team of RCMP investigators who, as both Justice O'Connor and Mr. Falconer assess, had simply been thrust into that position without proper training in matters of national security.

In short, "the story of Maher Arar is a perfect example of how it could happen to any one of us ordinary, law-abiding citizens."

Amidst Mr. Falconer's various well-articulated beliefs, one concept particularly resonated with this writer: he spoke of a "societal void in terms of where we are in this area. Our revulsion in this case is because it means Canadians would be implicit in allowing an innocent man to be tortured for the sake to others or ourselves." That single statement set millions of brain cells into overdrive. Are we really so complacent, even selfish, in regards to the possible consequences of our government's chosen method of handling the terrorist situation? Is it true that there is, as he postulated, a "visceral fear reaction that when people feel under threat, they are prepared to give up our civil liberties to the state in exchange for the notion of security?"

Such questions were posed to several law students, the following are some of the answers received.

"Torture dehumanizes us as a society and we should never employ it. In today's world, it is understandable that government officials will strive to gain greater powers. But it is vital that they have checks and balances. We must not deny fundamental civil liberties in the name of security. We should encourage methods that ensure security but also retain our humanity."

"Torture is unacceptable in all circumstances. The means never justify the ends because where does the cycle stop? Who can decide whether it's justified or not? "

"The National Securities Act – good. The Arar case – RCMP incompetence. I think [greater power being given to law enforcement officials] is a good thing; it should have been done earlier. It's justified in this climate of international terrorism. It's been done before in times of national emergency and democracy hasn't died."

"Yes, I think that Jack Bauer's actions on 24 are okay, that in cases of extreme emergency, torture could be used. I'm okay with it. I don't know who else is going to be given the power. I think too many people turn a blind eye. I try not to, and we shouldn't, because many times they go too far and if we don't monitor them, we will never have a good system. I think too many people don't like to think about unpleasant things so they choose to ignore them, and many WASP-type Canadians will say "that can't happen to me" because I'm not, say, Arabic, so they just don't care as much."

I'll leave you with Mr. Falconer's quotation from Robert Bolt's play, *A Man For All Seasons*. In the exchange, the law is compared to a thicket of trees and the devil is that unlawful soul who dares to threaten the existence of all those huddled within its comforting shade. Sir Thomas Moore pounds out a statement that is more than applicable to the situation:

"What would you do? Cut a great road though the law to get after the Devil?...And when the last law was down, and the Devil turned round on you, where would you hide...?...do you really think you could stand upright in the winds that would blow then? Yes, I'd give the Devil benefit of law, for my own safety's sake."

Eloquent? Undeniably. Thought-provoking? Undoubtedly. Yet, is it not interesting that, even in the end, his reaction stems from a desire to protect his own interests? Mr. Falconer ended with yet another teaser:

"How many trees do we knock down to get to the Devil? We should consider whether we ourselves are the devil or the other is the bigger evil."

Then again, that wasn't really a question, was it?

COMMENTS?
SUGGESTIONS?

Canons would like to know what you think of this or any of our issues. We have a 'Comments Box' in the library (at least, we think it's still there), or preferably e-mail us canons@ualberta.ca.

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Our sincere apologies to anyone we may have forgotten.

Canons of Construction is the official Law Student Newspaper of the University of Alberta Law Faculty. Canons' principal objectives are to provide equitable and judicious coverage of issues and events germane to Law Students at the University of Alberta and to provide an open forum for the free exchange and expression of thought, opinions and ideas.
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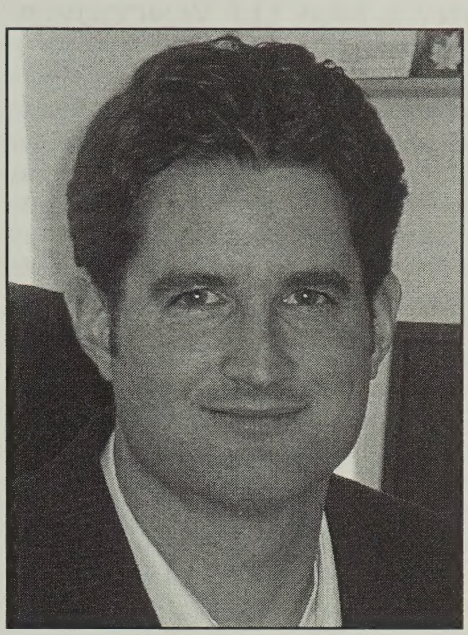
Meet Your Professors: Steven Penney

Kate Snowsell (1L)
Jessie Bachinsky (1L)



Professor Penney is originally from Edmonton. He completed both his Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology and his LLB at the University of Alberta. His favorite class during his LLB was Criminal Law, and (for some reason!) Constitutional Law. This year Professor Penney is teaching first year Criminal Law, an upper year course on Privacy, Technology, Crime and Terrorism, and Evidence.

After completing his LLB, Professor Penney earned his LLM from Harvard Law School. From there he went on to clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada for Mr. Justice Gerard V. La Forest. He then completed his articles at the Appeals and Criminal Law Policy Branch of the Alberta Department of Justice in Edmonton. Professor Penney taught at the University of New Brunswick before the University of Alberta Law Faculty enticed him back to Edmonton (in a vain attempt to win the Softball Tournament, which 1L's nevertheless won with ease!). In addition to their appealing offer, Professor Penney returned to Edmonton to be close to his family, and because he has so many fond memories of the law school itself.

According to Professor Penney, the main difference between UNB and U of A is size. U of A is a much larger school. Classes are bigger and more diverse, and there are many more activities and chances for involvement.

Outside of class, Professor Penney enjoys sports, in particular tennis and basketball. In fact, while growing up he dreamed not of becoming a lawyer, but of being a point guard for the Los Angeles Lakers. He enjoys all kinds of music, from jazz to punk, with the exception of classical. He is also quite the TV buff. His current favorites include The Wire, Trailer Park Boys, and South Park. Shopping is not one of his hobbies (which may surprise some of you, based on his snazzy wardrobe) but when pressed for an answer, he came up with Banana Republic as one of his favorites.

And finally, when asked what kind of Superhero Professor Penney would like to be, he replied "Aquaman". Based on further research, we found that Aquaman's only special power is the ability to communicate with underwater sea life! (To each their own!)

Advice to 1L's:

"Don't panic, you will do ok!" Professor Penney emphasized the importance of working hard, but also trying to balance the heavy workload with a way of relieving stress and thus maintaining sanity. There is an inevitable adjustment period in the way you are forced to think and read, and although marks may not be as high as you were used to in your undergraduate degree, you will survive.

The First Judicial Celebrity

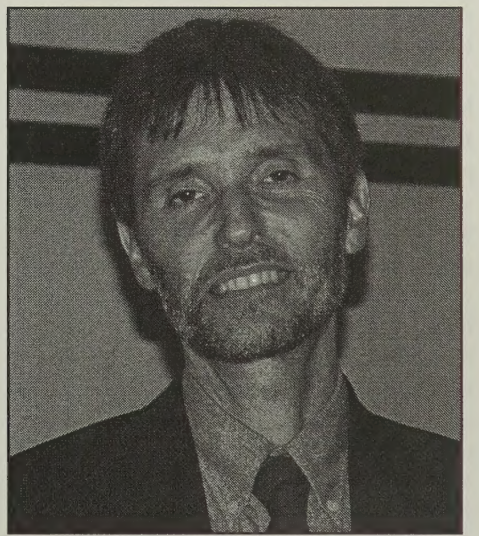
William MacKinnon (1L)

Bora Laskin was Canada's "first judicial celebrity" proclaimed Philip Girard, a Dalhousie law professor, of the late Chief Justice of Canada. Girard, who came to the University of Alberta as part of a book tour to promote his latest work entitled "Bora Laskin: Bringing Law to Life," argues that the Supreme Court as it was constituted in the 1950s and early 60s was a "dreary" operation that heard "too many cases" that were of little consequence to ordinary Canadians. As a result, few Canadians could have named one of Canada's nine Supreme Court justices who served during that era.

After Bora Laskin ascended to a place on the Court in 1970, all of this changed. During his tenure on the Court, Laskin challenged his colleagues to re-examine their own premises about the nature of law. From his perspective, the goal of a good judge was not merely to slavishly apply past precedents to new cases, but rather to ensure that the law responded to new challenges facing society.

One interesting feature of the book is that tremendous attention is paid to Laskin's early life. This was done because, according to Girard, Laskin's work as a judge was a product of his upbringing. Laskin grew up during the depression and was often the victim of the anti-semitism that plagued Toronto at the time. These experiences fueled his desire for greater social justice. In fact, Laskin's early life was considered so important that he is only appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal (his first judicial office) at page 316 of the book.

Laskin's approach to the law meant that his work did not escape criticism. Conservative judges and legal academics were among his fiercest critics. From their perspective, Laskin's emphasis on responsive law and his willingness to break with precedent were not inclinations to be admired. Indeed, as his tenure on the Court progressed, he was often referred to as a "heretic in the temple of legal conformity." While this label was probably quite fair, it is not one that should be seen as an insult. By frequently challenging the status quo, Laskin introduced a measure of humanity to the law that was palpably lacking prior to his arrival in 1970. And in so doing, he made a great contribution to his country—or, at least, a greater contribution than his detractors would attribute to him.



Philip Girard Photo: Courtney LeBlanc

Women in Law

Summering at Edwards, Kenny & Bray LLP Vancouver

Laura Gill (3L)

Is bigger always better? When it comes to law firms, size does not always matter. After working in a large firm last summer, I decided I'd like to try a smaller firm environment. I was very fortunate to be offered a summer position at Edwards, Kenny & Bray, a mid-sized firm of 30 lawyers in downtown Vancouver. EKB does work in basically every practice area except criminal law, so I was exposed to a wide variety of work. I had an amazing experience that has reinforced my decision to enter the legal profession and practice at a mid-sized firm.

While summering at a large firm typically involves working with a number of other summer students as well as formal litigation and solicitor rotations, I worked with only one other summer student and there was no formal rotation. The advantage of this was that I was really able to get to know everyone at the firm, including most of the support staff. This also allowed me the opportunity to work for every partner. I found that they were not only willing to go out of their way to educate me about both the legal and practical aspects of a problem, but they would also always take the time to ask how I was doing and answer my questions.

The firm assigned me a Principal, who was a partner and oversaw my work. I was fortunate to have been assigned Frits Verhoeven, a senior litigator at EKB and President of the British Columbia Bar Association. Frits brought me to several court sessions, tribunal hearings, and a benchers meeting, and taught me a great deal about client relations and maintaining a high level of professionalism in practice. I was also assigned a Mentor, who was an associate at the firm and was always there to offer advice.

EKB's greatest asset, its firm culture, is what made my summer so enjoyable. Lawyers, students, and staff are viewed as equally important to the operation and success of the firm. From the moment I walked into the office on my first day, I felt welcome. People would constantly stop by my office during the summer just to chat and offer feedback on work I had completed. The firm operated as a team, and events in the lives of both staff and lawyers were celebrated. Over the three months I was at EKB, the firm held two engagement parties, a retirement party, and a pizza luncheon to see a slideshow of pictures from a recent trip an associate had taken.

I definitely found that when it comes to law firms, bigger isn't always better. My summer at EKB taught me that it is the people who work at a firm that make it distinctive and that having the opportunity to get to know your colleagues in a mid-sized atmosphere made for a more supportive and enjoyable working environment. I had an incredible summer in Vancouver at EKB and I truly look forward to going back to article after I graduate.

Summering at BLG Vancouver

Kristine Johns (3L)

I spent my past summer working for BLG. During May and June, I was located at the Vancouver office, where I will be articling in 2007. I then moved to the Montreal office for July and August. My appeal to BLG, overcoming my angst about the feel of a large firm, was solidified from the first day. I was worried that maybe they had simply put on a good show during interviews about encouraging a healthy lifestyle, lack of elitism within the firm, community outreach, and investing in student development. I was also worried about the other students that had been hired, as I was one of nine (6 women and 3 men). What if we didn't click? Thankfully, my fears were quickly allayed. From the beginning, not only did BLG hold up and exceed my expectations, but my fellow summer students were some of the brightest, most outgoing, and driven people I've had the privilege of working with.

Some of the highlights included a trip to Victoria (my first helicopter ride) on the first Friday to get acquainted with the courthouse and company registry there, a.k.a. spend the day drinking, eating, and touring around the beautiful provincial capital (and my hometown). Also, at the beginning of June, the firm sent us on a retreat of our choice to bond with one another. We chose the Lake Okanagan Resort near Kelowna, and spent an awesome weekend vineyard hopping and connecting with each other. I taught the girls in my car the art of car dancing in a convertible.

Another privilege was the firm sponsoring the female students to attend a CBA Women's Law Forum event, where we heard the inspiring outgoing president of UBC, Martha Piper, give a truly unforgettable speech.

On the work side of things, my rotation for my first two months was with the Labour and Employment group, one of my areas of interest. I was enthusiastic everyday to get up and head to the office, simply because of the people I worked with. I was treated with respect and as if my contributions, both in terms of ideas and legwork, were genuinely appreciated. I was invited to sit in on client interviews, Examinations for Discovery, and participated in the massive client informational seminar we hosted, for which I had done much of the research. The counsel I worked with were intellectually awe-inspiring. Yet, they were so socially cognizant, that even the support staff, catering staff, and cleaning persons were

acknowledged and appreciated. Moreover, this prevailed throughout the entire BLG environment, beyond the stereotypical touchy, feely L & E group, as I also periodically had the opportunity to work with lawyers in Fraud, Commercial transactions, Real Estate, and other industry groups that reflected the same mentality.

My time in Montreal rendered less to report than Vancouver, on the work side at least. Although the students I worked with there were equally as fun and supportive as those in Vancouver, the work environment was significantly more hierarchical. Still, I did work with several amazing counsel and was involved in some very interesting Entertainment Law solicitor s files and Health Law litigation.

All in all, it was a great summer and the best part is that I got paid to have that much fun! Though each law student will be seeking something different from their legal experience, I think we can each find comfort in the ever-clichéd gut instinct when it comes to choosing a firm.

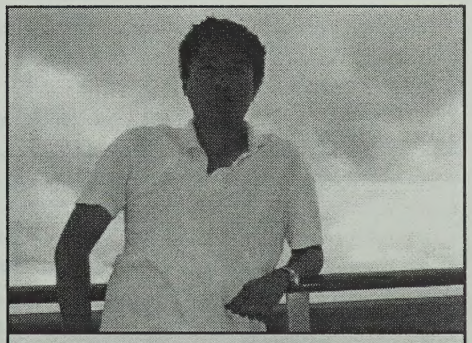
Summering at McCarthy Tétrault Vancouver
Vista Pourbahrami (3L)

Take one University of Alberta female law student, minus *any* business background and add six male summer students and surprisingly the recipe did not end in disaster. I walked to the McCarthy Tétrault Vancouver office in May frightened, and walked out in August feeling very fortunate to have had such a fantastic summering experience. Why was I frightened? Well I had never worked in an office, and definitely not in a law office and I was certain that my inexperience would be painfully obvious. It is impressive how much you can build up your potential co-workers in your mind, without ever having met the other students, and assume that you are the weakest link without any rational basis for the thought. The best thing I did in May, was recognize that all seven of us summer students were equally lost, so when we were not making fools of ourselves at karaoke, watching Shakespeare, or getting collectively sea-sick when we sped along to Pender Island we were helping each other learn the "dos and don'ts" of being an MT Summer student.

Our office was in renovation mode, which meant I shared a space with another student, Michael. Michael and I really lucked out in the sense that when either of us were stuck as to how/where to start on something we would converse over our office partition and problem solve together. Two minds really are better than one! Both Michael and myself, along with Tam, a student from McGill, were summering in Litigation and the remainder of our peers (Adam, Robin, Morgan and Vincent) summered in the Business Law Group. The great majority of my summer was spent understanding what it means to be a civil litigator. I observed administrative hearings and trials for the files that I was working on, and did an impressive amount of research and writing.

One very memorable moment was working on my first memorandum assignment. The partner that gave me the work insisted that I go back and ask questions if I was confused and even suggested I start my research with the law of equity. I researched, and researched and researched and wrote a twenty page memo on one particular equitable principle and also found something that I was reluctant to believe to be the answer, since it was far too simple and logical so instead I wrote about it as an alternative analysis briefly in the third paragraph on the memo. The partner stopped reading my memo at the third paragraph, the simple answer was what he needed. He apologized for sending me on the wrong track but also wondered why I had not approached him *during* my research process. After laughing at myself for several days, I realized the experience was great since #1: It taught me that Partners/Lawyers are **not** too busy to answer my questions #2: The easy answers really are often the right ones #3: To not get upset when I spend over 20 hours on something and most of the work in the end is not very useful, #4: Thankfully my wild goose chase was not billed to the client and #5: Researching equitable principles is not a heck of a lot of fun.

I am returning to McCarthy Tétrault to article next year minus the fears, reservations and anxieties that I had at the beginning of the summer. It sounds like a cliché, but I will say it anyways because it's true, the people I worked with this summer made it a fantastic experience every step of the way.



Mark Facundo Vacation Timeline
Sept. 14-18 Victoria, BC
Sept. 19-20 Vancouver, BC
Sept. 20-27 Pacific Ocean Cruise
Sept. 27-Oct. 4 Hawaiian Islands
Oct. 5 Back in Edmonton

Where in the World is Mark Facundo?
Mike Sharp (3L)

A lot of you may not have noticed that Mark Facundo, Filipino Extraordinaire, has been gone for the last three weeks. I, however, have really missed my lil' buddy (I figure a Gilligan & Skipper analogy is appropriate for the two of us - him being funny, me being portly). For those of you who aren't sure where Mark is, you will be happy to know that he is safe and sound on an extended family vacation. National Lampoon style.

I mean … how stressed out and tired are you? After this long month of student group activities, loan applications, and course start-up, I'm certainly left wishing for a tropical holiday. Well, my friends, that's where hopers and dreamers (like you and me) are separated from do-ers. Mark Facundo is a do-er; a man of action. After the first full week of 3L life, he's picked up and left the U of A law community far behind to enjoy some well deserved time in the sun.

One might question the wisdom of abandoning a newly formed LSA executive so early on. Nonetheless, the remainder of the Council has seemed to rally in the absence of their leader and become a tight-knit group who have implemented such revolutionary ideas as moving El Hacko indoors and having a Who's-Who completed before December. The LSA has also made it through the September FABS and the first year student elections without incident. Our first year LSA reps will soon be introduced to their long-lost President in a manner that I could only imagine as resembling a Maury Povich moment.

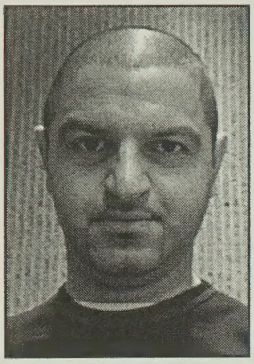
Mark, as the self-proclaimed strongest man in law school, is also not afraid of anything. Being fortunate enough to secure an article over the summer, Mark has taken the third year attitude of apathy to an extreme. Three consecutive weeks of classes in a four month term; who needs it? Studying can be done in December where it belongs.

Aside from abandoning the LSA and course work, Mark has also left behind the Law Show acting group and his girlfriend. As I understand it, however, both parties feel that Mark isn't particularly useful until he puts on his Professor Yahya costume anyway.

With all of that said, I can completely understand why Mark went on his trip. I think I probably would if given the opportunity. Wouldn't you?

First Year Orientation

Navid Nikou (1L)



Let me begin by introducing myself, my name is Navid and I belong to that subsection of the populace affectionately referred to as the "1Ls". Perhaps you've noticed us stumbling around the Law Center in small herds.

I was recently asked to write an article about my impressions of orientation day. To be honest orientation day was the last thing on mind before school began. Between moving here the night before said orientation, the fact that I could count the number of acquaintances in this city on one hand (with enough fingers left over to make a peace sign, or if you prefer devil horns), and the bewildering prospect of starting something so challenging and unfamiliar, I did not spend much time pondering the subtleties of "orientation" day.

I completed my undergrad at U of C, and while I came to love the program and the people, the same could not be said of the actual institution (nice gym though). Sadly this feeling was shared by most of my peers, including the law students. I got my first taste of the greener pasture at the open house, last year. That's right, last year! In case you haven't heard my sob story already, I was actually accepted a year ago but had to reluctantly give up my spot a week before classes began. I'll spare you the details, but track me down if you really need closure. I should warn you that I tend to get pretty emotional and animated when I reminisce! Incidentally, if you want a real tearjerker, buy me a coffee sometime and I'll tell you all about where I live. I'll give you a hint, the words "Italy" and "Little" may come up, and not necessarily in that order!

So back to last year's open house, which I actually attended with some reluctance. To be completely honest I never had an intention of attending U of A prior to the open house. But lo and behold, they/you won me over. When I think back, what stands out most is being completely caught off guard by the kindness and sincerity of the faculty. I found everyone from the students all the way to Dean Percy extremely helpful and approachable. Needless to say, by the end of the day I knew where I would be attending the coming year.

Now before I go on any further I would like to thank Kim Wilson and the faculty for all their help and patience in getting me through a very arduous year of frustrating anticipation. So finally here I am at orientation day and it's essentially an expanded version of the open house with the same level of warmth, kindness, and respect. I honestly felt as though everyone showed up with open arms to welcome us to the faculty, but what I appreciate even more is how forthcoming and helpful everyone has been since that day. I have had countless upper year students approach me to offer their assistance, many of whom are involved with this very publication. It almost seems like the entire faculty has a genuine empathy for what we are going through. Take for example Dean Percy's offer to tutor me personally. What I found even more refreshing than his great generosity was his wonderful sense of humor. In fact I bet if you asked him about his offer he would look confused and pretend not to know anything about it. He's such a kidder that dean!!

So thank you all for making the transition to law school as smooth as possible. Something tells me we'll need all the help we can get. School only began three weeks ago and I have already met dozens of people, poured over hundreds of pages of text, went through several highlighters, won the softball tournament as part of *barely legal* (a great group of other 1Ls), and learned several valuable Latin phrases such as *ultra vires, prima facie*, and my personal favourite *"arse-creepers"*! One third of you may find that funny!

Alan Young to Speak

Sean Duncan (2L)

Professor Alan Young from Osgoode Hall Law School will be speaking on Monday October 16th, 2006 in room 237 starting at 12pm. Presented by the University of Alberta Faculty Of Law and the Legal Activist Collective he will be speaking about the fascinating subject of Wrongful Convictions. Professor Young has worked on many controversial subjects including constitutional defences of alternative lifestyles and using marijuana for medicinal purposes. He also co-founded The Innocence Project at Osgoode.

Beginning in 1997, The Innocence Project has up to ten law students review select wrongful conviction cases. Students investigate and look into evidence supporting claims of innocence while receiving course credit. They also perform research looking into the causes of wrongful convictions in a Canadian setting. While only two schools in Canada are working on Innocence Projects, a plethora of similar projects exist in the United States.

Are you interested in working abroad? Longing to study in Australia?

Check out a course site on TWEN called "Information on Working and Studying Abroad" Created by Professor Joanna Harrington (currently on secondment to Foreign Affairs)

The site serves as a depository of information on exchange terms, summer courses, and scholarships for graduate studies, internships, international clerkships, and international careers.

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VP SOCIALS

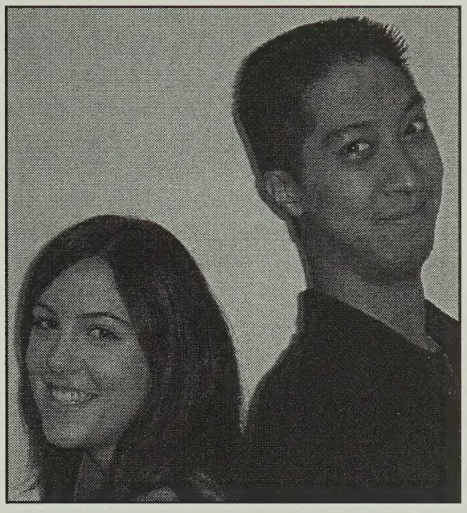
WARREN WOO (3L)
ASHLEY REID (2L)

One month down, seven more to go! First off, congratulations to all you bright-eyed, bushy-tailed 1Ls for surviving your very first month of law school. Secondly, congratulations to all you upper years for making it through September with only minimal signs of impairment. Think it's only downhill from here? Fear not! As your VP Socials, it's our job to make sure that you continue to have fun at all of the great events we have planned out for the school year.

For those of you who weren't able to make it out to our September events, here is a quick recap:

Pre-Orientation: As per tradition, the LSA and 75 incoming 1Ls boarded a few big yellow school buses and headed to Ed's (yes, formerly "Red's") for a wholesome evening of bowling, pool and bonding. After Ed's, a healthy mix of all years descended upon Hudson's on Campus for a late night of catching up with old friends and making new ones. Special props to any first years who stayed out late that night and then turned up fuzzy-headed and bleary-eyed at Orientation on the first day of school.

First Friday Back: Our annual First Friday Back was held at Hazeldean Community Hall. Attendance was very high, with the largest contingent coming from the first year class. Dancing and socializing was the name of the game, and the LSA was also well-equipped to keep all partygoers fully hydrated. We would write more about this event, but we're sure that like most of you, we can't remember much else…



El Hacko & the first FABS: Despite torrential downpours, freezing temperatures and the golf course being closed Matt Husson managed to pull off a successful El Hacko (for intellectuals, that's Spanish for "The Hacko")! Thanks to some crafty last minute planning, the event was quickly saved with some virtual golfing. Upon the return of the golfers, we had our first Friday Afternoon Beer Social (for intellectuals, that's longhand for "FABS") of the year in the luxurious confines of the Gavel. With the grill fired up and the drinks on ice, we hung out in the Gavel and then headed to the Druid downtown for the after party. Keep your eyes open for posters advertising our next FABS of the year!

And now with September under our belt, we have begun planning upcoming events. We plan on having a themed **FABS** (stay tuned to find out what the theme is!), as well as the annual **Med/Law mixer** next semester. Don't forget to mark February 15th on your calendars as the Carbolic Smoke Ball will be held on this date at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. More information will follow about this annual semi-formal event! As always, keep your eye on the calendar under glass for information about other great parties, like the Annual Halloween Party and Rugby Alumni Weekend!

Before we leave you, some final notes:

On behalf of the LSA VP Socials we would like to thank our hard working volunteers for all your help in the last month. Whether it was selling tickets, pouring drinks or assisting with manual labour we couldn't have done it without out! Thank you!! We would also like to thank the rest of the LSA for their tireless efforts!

For clubs who want to organize social events, please contact us so that we can work out dates and schedule events on the calendar accordingly.

LAW SHOW UPDATE

DALE WESTON (3L)

I can't believe that it is already October and that we have just finished our third week of Law Show rehearsals! Someone told me the other day that we're rapidly approaching the "100 days until Law Show" mark…scary and exciting at the same time!

As the Theatrical Director of Law Show 2007, my job has been to work with my amazing group singing, dancing, acting and band directors to build a theme for the show, select songs and generally make sure things are running smoothly. This year's show is called L.A.W. Confidential, and follows a group of students as they attempt to solve the mystery of Dean Percy's kidnapping.

Until things really pick up in January, my role during Sunday evening rehearsals is to check in with the different groups and address any concerns that they may have. It's quite the change from my role as assistant dancing director last year, and it feels a little weird to be watching the dancers instead of teaching them choreography (I miss the work out, too). But, it's an absolute blast to see what happens in each of the different rehearsal rooms. The actors crack me up every time I stop by, the band is absolutely incredible (and is mostly made up of 1Ls!), the singers sound professional already and the dancers are picking things up faster than I've ever seen. For all the long hours that the exec has spent preparing for the show, it is rewarding to see such a great turnout and such great attitudes.

Also worth mentioning is the awesome group of first years that are cast members this year. I seriously think that it must be some kind of record and we are so thrilled to have you guys. One of the theatrical team's priorities is to ensure that the entire cast gets to know each other prior to our January rehearsals – hence the coordinated rehearsal times and more regular trips to Hudson's after practices.

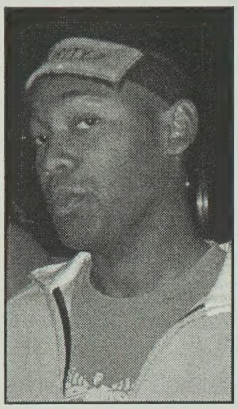
As fall progresses, rehearsals will continue and we'll soon start seeing how the show fits together. Singers and dancers will coordinate with the band to make sure that everything matches up, and the filming of our always-popular videos will begin. It makes for a busy few months, but come showtime, it's all worth it.

If you didn't sign up for Law Show at Clubs Fair and are interested in participating, there may still be a spot for you – we need help backstage and at the front of the house come January. Just track down an executive member and we'll discuss ways to get you involved.

I'd like to thank the Canons staff for giving Law Show our very own column this year. Between now and Christmas, look for regular reports from different Law Show executive members and performers about their experiences.

Am I The Last Panda?

Ryan Lee Chee (3L)



What do all these things have in common?

The Law Rugby Team, Carbolic Smoke Ball, Law Show, and Ryan Lee Chee

They are part of the culture of law school. No, I am not declaring myself an integral part of law school, far from it but it is WHAT I AM that makes the U of A law school unique.

You see my fellow law students, every two years the law school tends to recruit a solitary male student that could possibly have the name Kwame Nibiquo. We usually don't, too much culture shock I suppose. What the hell am I talking about? Let me try again, usually at any given time there are two "brothers" in the faculty. One senior and the other a junior, a backup in case the main brother cannot perform his duties. A "vice-brother" if you will.

Ladies and gentlemen, your law school is in crisis.

So what if we're down to one undergrad African Canadian you ask? "One brother is good enough for faculty street cred" I overheard someone saying while taping a hockey stick.

Is it? Last year we had an obscenely tall asian acting as "Lil Jon" in law show, we have people wearing Raptor Jerseys to school, and a brown man who does all the crip walking at law parties. The "Brother and Law" program is under strain. Bottom line: there simply aren't enough brothers to fill in the urban gaps of the school.

Fellow law students, every "home-dawg" in law school really only has a shelf life of two years. Usually the black guy in third year is more of a figurehead, while he might be noticed at each law party he really holds no partying power. (Its in the Faculty Constitution, I think its somewhere to the back). The priority of this senior brother is to help groom his successor for the duties he will be expected to perform.

The brother of law school enriches the law school experience not only socially but also in the classroom. Brothers have a variety of real life experiences that include altercations with the police when learning about Charter violations, to tort laws when "people be tripping."

I feel I owe this school a duty of care not to leave it without an urban appeal. Despite the Faculty's neglect in recruiting a person that enjoys eating food that can make his forehead perspire, or who uses the term "baller"; I will still be taking applications for "vice-brother". Now beggars can't be choosers, so the rules have been relaxed. Does your hair get messy and yet others don't notice? Is your grandfather half Hispanic? Or do you really believe O.J. didn't do it? While not much, it may be enough to make you the next faculty brother.

I will give all earnest efforts to ensure this faculty enters 2007/08 academic season with an urban appeal that would make Ontario Law Schools cower, "by any means necessary".

He Says... She Says

After a month of law school, I must ask the inevitable question, is it safe to date another law student? Please advise!

- Lonely in Law School

She says:
Dear Lonely in Law School,

How sweet and precious of you to write in to inquire about your beating heart- Your question is a common one and one we single law students give too much thought to. Law school is a wonderfully selfish time of our lives. We are so immersed in the law bubble (aka high school) that sometimes you will feel that the only person who understands what you are going through is another law student. If you date a law student, they will understand your stress levels, be invited to all the law parties, engage in stimulating legal debates with you, and even speak Latin to you!

If you are interested in someone in law, go for it, why not? I mean, it sure would make Foundations more enjoyable! The truth of the matter is: you will find your answer when you decide if he/she is worth your while. It shouldn't matter the position the person is in, but **who** the person is. Follow your heart, embark on the academic journey together, take study breaks, help each other distress and embrace your love....oh, and as a side note, sign a prenupt!

He Says:
Listen up "Lonely",

You must be in your first year, or you'd have learned the answer to that already in Foundations class. Great scholars have debated your very question and come up with a philosophical answer they call "Rule of Law". Simply stated, the Rule of Law is that you don't date other people who are **in law**. Ask your professor next class. Seriously. Then tell me what he says.

Whether you're dipping your pen in the company ink, or having your ink dipped by a company pen, it's still too much like work. You'll see your significant other everyday at school, you'll see them every night at home, and let's be honest, you'll see them every Tuesday at Hudson's singing poorly selected Karaoke

songs. Unless you're that rare breed of "man" who likes to spend his Tuesdays belting out Meat Loaf duets and sipping diet cream soda from a straw with a frilly umbrella, then I suggest you heed the Rule of Law and maintain a strict "look but don't touch" attitude.

Just to be safe, I'd like to leave you with my Top 5 Reasons Not to Date Someone in Law School.

5) The "I'm in Law School" pickup line falls short every time.

4) She'll break up with you when she realizes you didn't offer anything even remotely resembling Good Consideration.

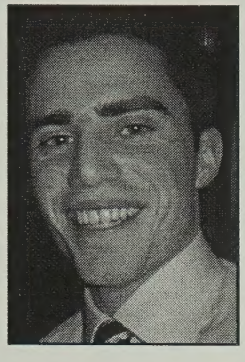
3) Everyone's embarrassed when your friends catch him at the bar acting like an easement.

2) You'll get mad that she's an 'A' type and she'll get mad that you're a type B-Minus. (Thanks to Kieran and Machine for letting me steal that one...)

1) He's not in it for your personality, he just thinks you have a really great CAN.

ASK PHIL...
SOME ADVICE ABOUT ADVICE...

PHIL DU HEAUME (2L)



"Buy all of the recommended texts. Don't buy any of the case books. CAN everything Dean Percy said during orientation. Always wear a pink article of clothing to Professor DeCoste's Foundations class..." Yes, we are the Upper Years. We are your last bastion of hope and crucial information. Follow our tutelage and you're almost surely going to succeed in 1st year. Ignore our sage advice... and you're still almost surely going to succeed in 1st year.

The first month of Law School is an adjustment. It's sort of like a Carnival Funhouse - excitement, fear, and a funny smell, all packed into a shabby building (seriously, what up with the lower floor of the library?) To make matters worse, the big kids in the funhouse are going to be telling you which way to turn at every opportunity. Don't get us wrong, we're not trying to be pushy. The added confusion and aggravation we're sure to cause each and every one of you is only because **we remember**.

We remember wondering why the most advanced years of our education to date are eerily reminiscent of Junior High School. We remember wondering why Socrates had to be such a jerk-off when he came up with his "method". We remember wondering why there's a 10 drink minimum at every law school function. And most of all, we remember wondering what the hell we just got ourselves into. The problem with advice though, is that the people giving it haven't walked a mile in your shoes. And you're all too willing to listen, because you've been in those shoes so long that you're starting to worry you may have habituated to the stink of your own feet...

Some of the pieces of advice that you will hear are priceless, while others are just plain wrong. The thing to remember when an upper year decides that he's Mr. Miyagi and you're the Karate Kid, is that the advice worked for that particular individual and not necessarily anyone else. It doesn't make it wrong and it doesn't make it right. There's an infinite number of ways to get through Law School. Granted, some of them include an occasional visit to the Student Appeal Board, but that shouldn't dissuade you from trying to cut your own teeth in first year.

The truth of the matter is that you earned your acceptance into law school- mostly by your own ability. Nearly all of us were lucky enough to have great support from our family, friends and professors, but the common ingredient has always been "you". Don't let the first month of school be so overwhelming that you forget that. But don't forget to be humble either. Despite what the creepy manicured guy in the front row who raised his hand thirteen times during Constitutional class might think, you are all peers. Appreciate the opportunity you have been given, and enjoy the friendships you will make. The upper year advice is just free information coming from a semi-experienced resource. Ignoring it completely would be foolish, but following it blindly could be perilous. Consider it your first lesson of Law School: Make note of the precedent that others have set, but find the way to apply it best to your own set of facts and issues.

DON'T GO THROUGH LAW SCHOOL BASS ACKWARDS

WENDY WANG (1L)

Okay, I had two choices before me: write something that was *Touched by an Angel* uplifting or not. To ensure that you continue to read this, I chose "not".

Since I'm a 1L and one of the fresher imports to Alberta, there isn't much here that really grinds my gears. So what if the freak weather catches me off-guard and proceeds to render useless whatever meagre amount of clothing I could shove into a suitcase? That's what student loans and West Edmonton Mall are for. So what if my floormates decide to have a raging toga party and decline to clean up the puke-tastic mess left on the common carpet afterwards? That's what a plugged nose and those creative square-dancing steps I had to learn in grade 7 are for!

Thus, in honour of our shiny new year of law school, here is a tried-and-true rant that everyone can relate to. You have all observed it in action; perhaps you have even fantasized about kicking it until it is down and quietly whimpering in deference. That's right, folks: I am referring to the **smart-ass**. This elusive creature of the wild is not so elusive and is regarded as so tame that even its own mother finds its blathering tedious at times. For the sake of convenience, let's call this "it" Aleck.

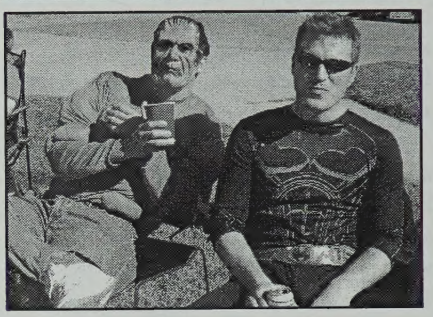
Arrogant Aleck is that guy (although, let's face it, girls are equally at fault) who always raises his hand when the professor poses yet another question meant to inspire half the class and mystify the rest. Aleck usually gets it wrong, although his smug, self-satisfied smirk suggests that he believes otherwise. Unfathomably, he is equally keen on returning for round two and fashioning his own random questions, which are identifiable in their general ability to waste class time. It soon becomes quite clear that Aleck considers himself the best thing since sliced bread, on the verge of revolutionizing the toaster industry as we know it.

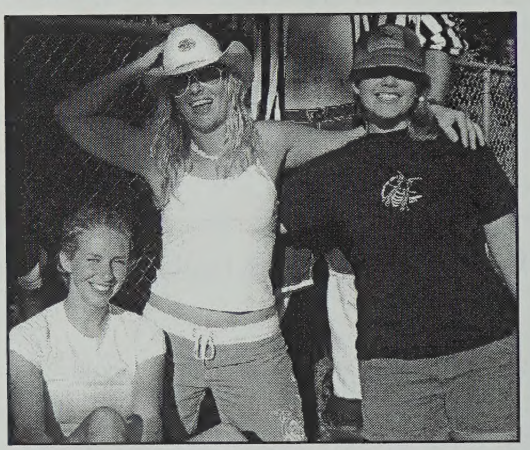
Now, let's be honest here (and I'm not talking about the type of honesty reserved for schmoozing and boozing). Are you Aleck? Do you seriously harbour delusions that you will be that one person who will defy everyone's warnings about the new pyramid and become the reigning academic champion, all by yourself? If the answer is yes, you might as well gain 50 pounds and dig up a volleyball named Wilson – it's time to hunker down on your self-created island in outright defiance of John Donne.

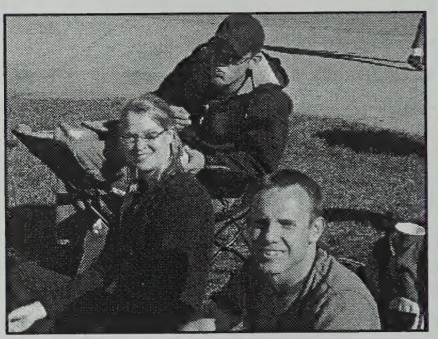
Chances are that people will be tired of your know-it-all act within weeks. No one will want to hear your feeble attempts at trotting out obscure case rulings that you memorized while simultaneously watching reruns of *Horatio Hornblower* on A & E (which is particularly fitting, being that you enjoy tooting your own

...Continued on page 17...

1 Law's a Beach







Softball Tournament

Photos provided by Prof. Hutchinson, Stefanie Quelch & Mariana Oliveira

El Hacko & FABS

How to Buy a Man's Suit

Mariana Oliveira (2L)

This article is for the gentlemen out there who are about to embark on the exhilarating journey of suit shopping! Whether the suit is for court appearances, interviews, or to impress your date at Carbolic, the process of buying a suit can be a daunting task. My experience from working at a men's suit store, coupled with my love for a man in a suit (think Jude Law in Alfie) taught me a few tricks of the trade. Here are some Do's and Don'ts when buying a man's suit:

Your First Suit should be a solid dark suit - black, charcoal, or navy. Any of the three is suitable, but allow me to suggest charcoal. A black suit is very formal, most appropriate for weddings, funerals and black tie events. A navy suit is your office suit, most often used for work and meetings. The beauty of a charcoal suit is that it can do both. Extremely versatile in its look and very modern, a charcoal suit can be paired up with a black shirt and silver tie for the Carbolic party look, or a striped baby blue shirt with a diagonal striped tie for the articling interview. Nevertheless, any of these choices will serve you well and you will be guaranteed great use out of a solid dark suit.

Pin Striped Suits are fashionable, attractive and can make you look slimmer or taller depending on shape and size. Nevertheless, they come in and out of fashion and are more noticeable; whereas, you can wear a solid colored suit on back to back days and change the look completely. Break up a solid suit and use the jacket as a blazer and match it with different pants, preferably taupe or olive pants. If you do prefer a striped suit, think subtle, instead of Italian Mob—this will allow you to get more wear of your suit on back to back days.

Buttons I recommend investing in a three button suit. Two button is "in" right now, and in recent years four button was the style. Three button is consistent and will be in style for years to come. Don't fret if you have two or four…you are still fashionable! However, I do recommend retiring those double breasted suits. However, a single breasted suit is slimming and looks good with or without being buttoned up. The most crucial button rule: NEVER, EVER, EVER (not for pictures, warmth, or whatever reason you can think of) NEVER button the last button of a suit. This may seem bizarre, I know, but it is never meant to be buttoned up. Ask any salesperson in suit stores- or try it out as a practical joke, they will gasp when you come out of the change room with the buttons done up. It is the worst fashion faux pas in men's suit. This is also true for two button suits!

To Cuff or Not to Cuff (The famous question of whether or not to cuff precludes the important consideration of pleats on pants.) The Italian cut (thin and tight fitting) is the modern cut for suits; subsequently, no pleats or single pleats are the most common, in which case, no cuff is needed. However, it is recommended to cuff if buying a double pleated pant. The benefits of a cuff are plentiful, for example, it is much easier to go from cuff to plain hem (although the reverse can be done by putting on a false cuff). A cuff will make the pant look finished, and will add weight to the bottom of the pants. In addition, it will keep the pant from tucking inside the shoe, which may happen with a plain hem. Nevertheless, a plain hem looks clean, and is preferred by most young men.

How much to spend on a suit This is a personal decision but keep in mind a few things: First off, you are a law student… let me emphasize **student**, which is another word for poor. Don't be fooled by name brands! You pay for the name brand, not for the quality. But spend enough to ensure quality. Quality is important because every time you dry clean a suit you lose approximately 10% of the quality. You should expect your suit to last you five years. For quality I suggest a 100% virgin wool suit, which can be found at all locations. Avoid blends that have too much polyester, because they are not breathable and may look cheap.

The Magic of a Tailor Have a tailor look at your suit (yes this requires trying it on). Things to look for: collar roll at the back of the suit in upper back, sleeve length, pant length, width of jacket (this can be a major project or simply the moving over of buttons!). When trying on the pants for the hem make sure it is sitting at your waist, not where you wear your jeans! This is crucial and will determine the length of your pants.

Tips Crumple fabric to determine how easily your suit will wrinkle. Shop around and be picky. Heavens me, TRY IT ON! Wear dark socks! For the Italian look, tuck in the flaps of your pockets. And very important, let loose the lawyer inside of you and use your negotiation skills! Even if the suit is on sale, they can give you a better deal. And negotiate the charge for alterations. And last but not least, make sure you feel good in it! If you feel good, you will look confident, comfortable and charming.

Law's a Beach: Recap

Mariana Oliveira (2L)
Erynne Schuster (2L)

Perhaps one of the most entertaining activities that the Grad Committee organizes is the annual slo-pitch tournament: Law's a Beach. This year, the tournament was held at Windsor Park ball diamonds. The weather was perfect, and the day was filled with fun, a tasty barbeque, and entertaining softball. There was an exciting upset when last year's champions were beat by the first year team near the beginning of the event. The Justice League, dressed as Superheroes, made a return this year but unfortunately their superpowers were no match for the talent found on the faculty team. The faculty entered a team this year and blew participants away with their second place finish and fierce competition. Congratulations to the first year team and a big thanks to all participants for once again making Law's a Beach an unforgettable success.

Better Know A VP Sports

Jason Giborski (2L)
Matt Husson (2L)

Welcome to the first part in our one part series "Better know a VP sports". My guest today is VP sports Matt Husson...THE FIGHTIN' HUSSON. While most kids aspired to be an astronaut or doctor, Matt walked to the beat of a different drum and always knew he'd want to be involved in politics. He told his parents he'd be the first Husson to hold the office of VP Sports. In high school he worked extra hard as towel and Water boy for the football team. At McMaster University, his dreams of becoming VP sports were all but lost until early in 2005 when he found out he was coming out west for law school. His controversial election last year left us with many questions, I hope to answer all of those today. Matt and I sat down in his dingy office by the west doors.

Jason: Alright, Vice-President Husson, I'd like to clear last year's uncontested election. Now, even though it was a yes/no vote, many exit polls showed that people were confused by the question. In fact, some thought that by voting "yes", they were saying, "yes, we hate Matt Husson and don't want him to win this election." How do you respond to that?

Matt: Well Jason, first I would question the intellectual competency of anyone who would construe a simple YES/NO ballot to mean "yes, we hate Matt Husson". However after careful deliberation, I can only assure these individuals that my own hatred for them burns with the fire of a thousand suns.

Jason: Some doubt your ability to be the Vice-President of Sports. Looking back on your amateur career, I was hard pressed to find any evidence of you being any type of athlete. Mr. Husson, I went to your house in Guelph and found nothing but participation trophies on the wall. What makes you qualified to be VP Sports?

Matt: Sure I'm not the biggest, strongest or fastest dude at law school. Sure I can't beat most girls at an arm wrestle. Some say I'm in terrible shape, and they're right. I've even been told: "Matt, your personal hygiene leaves a lot of room for improvement", but you know what Jason, I've got a lot of heart. And I think that it shows out on the field. Secondly, they said I was "too dumb" to be VP Academic; so I chose sports instead.

Jason: Take us through a typical day in the life of Vice President Matt Husson.

Matt: Wake up at about 9, watch some cartoons while I eat my bowl of Tony's Turboz or Reese Puffs and then head to class. At lunch I'm in the Gavel beating Dave Both at foosball or napping in the LSA office. Go home after class, play video games, and think about reading. In the evening, I'll watch 3 or 4 episodes of Curb Your Enthusiasm or procrastinate somehow. By midnight I'm ready to crack the books and put in a solid half hour of reading before I pass out. Wake up in the morning, lather, rinse, repeat.

Jason: Wow, sounds fascinating. So Matt, who were some of your childhood heroes?

Matt: Teenwolf. Not only was he a werewolf, but he was the star of the high school basketball team, surfed on top of vans and got all the girls.

Jason: Sometimes I wish I was Count Chocula, then I'd show Frankenberries who's boss! So where does Matt Husson go from here? President of the LSA? SU? USA?

Matt: I was recently elected president of an online club called "NAMBLA". Thought it stood for "North American Men's Baseball Lovers Association", so I was pretty stoked. I organized a big baseball tournament and all the guys seemed pretty excited to "play". When I showed up, I found out that these dudes weren't interested in baseball at all. NAMBLA actually stands for "North American Man-Boy Love Association"....so I've withdrawn my membership and have decided to stay out of the political arena for a bit; at least until the scandal dies down.

Jason: One final question for you....Mark Facundo....great president or greatest president?

Matt: Mark Facundo; better than nothing...I guess.

The Trials of a Panda Bearrister

Adrianna Boughton (2L)

In my first year when I told my friends and family that I had joined the law rugby team it raised more than a few eyebrows. I am a petite 5' 2" - on a good day. As my family's surprise confirmed, there is a common misconception of a stereotypical woman rugby player. Nevertheless, a Panda Bearristers rugby practice proves this belief is misplaced; you see, not one team member would satisfy the stereotype. Although we have our competitive side, it is mostly a fun, laid back atmosphere for those who have played the game before, those who have wondered what this sport is all about, to those somewhere in between.

In fact, if you are looking to be a member of an intense rugby team we recommend you continue your search. The rugby season starts in mid September and ends in a challenging game against the Alumni sometime in mid-October. Challenging because this is the only game the Panda Bearristers play the entire season; unlike the Golden Bearristers who enjoy the opportunity to play against other teams. Challenging because throughout the season we are never taught the rules of rugby and our practices involve touch games unlike the alumni game which is tackle.

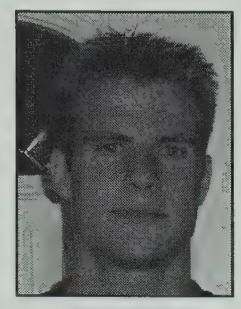
Why is there such a discrepancy between the Golden Bearristers and the Panda Bearristers, especially in the age of equal opportunity and equal rights? Is this inconsistency founded in the same misconception that had my family questioning how I could possibly play rugby? Are there wider social implications inherent in this notable difference?

Quite the contrary, I believe the inequality

...Continued on page 15...

Why are the Golden Bearristers so Popular?

Bryan Crozier (1L)



I was asked by our *wise* Sports Editor why Law School Rugby is such a big deal. Yes, we only play 2 or 3 games, but the reasons behind the popularity of rugby go far beyond the game played on the pitch.

Most first don't really understand what they have gotten themselves into. So far it seems like this year is going to be like riding a bull. We have to hold on for dear life for as long as possible, and then hopefully throw our arms up triumphantly in the air when we are done (if we are alive to do so). Even though I did my undergrad at the U of A, I didn't recognize a single face in my first year class. As much as I love awkwardly introducing myself to everyone in the building, I was hoping there would be an easier way to meet people. Having played rugby for a while, when I heard everyone talking about how fun the law's rugby team is I thought it would be a great idea to join. Few people who showed up for rugby practice knew what they were doing, but that didn't matter. The first few days have been more about getting to know one another, having some fun…and having a few beers. My goal was to meet a bunch of people who enjoyed playing sports, liked to have some fun, and were also dedicated to school work. These kinds of guys were easy to find. Everyone gets along, says "hi" in the halls, and seems ready to go have a drink. It didn't matter what year anybody was in, we were immediately a team, and ready to help each other out. The team was a social club more than anything, and that's exactly why everyone there is glad to be involved.

Why Rugby is one of the fastest growing sports in North America? I realize that the average person walking by a rugby game might wonder what is going on. They see a bunch of guys, some are massive burly men, and some look like little kids, all of whom are running around with no equipment. The players are throwing a ball backwards, and beating the crap out of each other, often getting into what looks like a massive dog pile in the middle of the pitch. It sounds great already doesn't it? The ball goes backwards, but the players run forwards, making every inch gained on the field well deserved. The big guys (who refer to themselves as the real men working in the trenches) are forwards, and the little pretty boys who can run and catch quickly are the backs. A try (or touchdown if you want to use football terms) is worth five points. The convert is worth two points, and is kicked through the uprights from the same angle from where the ball is touched down in the try zone. That is the main idea behind rugby, and there a lot of other laws (rules) that will take a long time to explain, so much so that most players don't even know all of them! Don't even get me started on the referees (with the exception of our Dean who dones a fantastic job). The actual playing of the game is not the only component that makes this game great. A good team is one that trusts each other. This team trust builds camaraderie that many other sports can only dream of. Whether you know the rules or not, rugby is a great game to watch because it is a bunch of guys who are trying to fight their way through the game, only to look forward to the beers that await them at the end.

I know many people might not know much about rugby, but that's why I encourage everyone to check out the alumni game on October 14.

Trials of a Panda Bearrister

...Continued from Page 14

originates with those of us who join the team in the first place. It is not the case that girls cannot tackle or play like the boys; rather most members are seeking what I sought when I joined. I was looking for a club that was entirely unrelated to law in any substantive form yet did not require an intensity of commitment that may limit my scholastic opportunities. I was looking for something fun and physical to do at the end of a day filled with lectures; something that would allow me the occasion to interact with my fellow students and make a few friends. This is the experience I was afforded.

Regardless of the challenges the team faced in the Alumni game my first season, it did not prevent me from returning for a second year. This year our new coach, along with some more experienced team members, has made a promise to improve our skills and increase our knowledge of the game. Will our ability to play a more adept rugby game challenge the stereotypical misconception of women rugby players or minimize the discrepancy between the Golden and Panda Bearristers? It's doubtful. The bottom line is that the Panda Bearristers are here to have a good time, not change the world.

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The Law Hockey Pool returns for the 2006-2007 school year!

Thanks to all who signed up. Make sure to check this space in Canons during the year to see how you are doing! If you have any questions, contact Law Hockey President Chris Bruce (cbruce@ualberta.ca).

Faculty Hockey

Division I

Tortfeasors

Tuesday, Oct, 17 - 8:30 PM
Sunday, Oct, 29 - 8:45 PM
Monday, Nov, 27 - 9:45 PM

Division III

Sunday, Oct, 22 - 6:15 PM
Monday, Nov, 6 - 9:45 PM
Thursday, Nov, 30 - 9:45 PM

NHL: She's Back, and Better than Ever

Jason Thomas (3L)

Well it's been (by press time) a little over two months since the Mighty Oil fell victim to fate, chance, and lack of home-ice advantage and my girlfriend secretly delighted at the prospect of not being woken in the middle of the night with me wondering aloud in my sleep: "if the PP hasn't worked for 18 straight games, why does Craig Simpson think it will work TODAY without adjustment?? Why?" Anyway, quiet time is now over and our collective Mistress, sweet Lady NHL has returned. Here's my unedumacated predictions for 06-07 for our Big 3.

Vancouver – I have to give some respect where it's due, lest I go from being a "self-professed homer" to an "independently verified crank" (otherwise known as: Leaf Fans). Nonis pulled off a steal in the Luongo for Bertuzzi swap. Not only has he landed the finest young goaltender in the game today, but he jettisoned Big Bert whose highlights last year included his lowest points-per-game total in 5 years and adding the stench of the Steve Moore affair to the Canadian Men's Olympic hockey team (whose wretched play was rank enough). Luongo will have to be superb however, because the rest of the team won't be. The loss of Bertuzzi will do wonders for the dressing room, but replacing his moody, slumping, 71 points will not be a task made easier by Nonis allowing Anson Carter to walk and leaving the Sedin sisters, oops, I mean "linemates" without a steady winger. Vancouver will occupy the basement like a poor law student.

Calgary – Well what can I say about Calgary that I already haven't left in a message on Matt Mitschke's voicemail? Flames did attempt to deal with their shortcomings in the offseason by acquiring Alex Tanguay. Riding shotgun with Iggy, these two seem destined for a breakout year. The defence and goaltending for Calgary are (*grimacing*) the class of the Conference but those have never been Calgary's problems. The addition of Tanguay however will be enough to keep the Flames in first place in the division this year so they can be knocked out in the first round by a team with the ability to adapt and adjust (see: Calgary Flames 90 – 96, 06).

Edmonton – Yes, Pronger is gone. All you Flame fans now have permission to talk about how good he is. In fact, 10 players who suited up last June are now gone. Does this mean the Oilers suck? Contrary to my rantings after games 1, 2, and 7 of the Finals, no. There is no doubt goals will be scored. The question is how many will Dwayne Roloson let in. The Oilers should be hovering around the top of the division around Christmas just like last year. That being said, I've learned the Oilers are notoriously inconsistent right around my birthday (Jan to early March). Look for the Oilers to finish second or third in the division and anywhere between fourth and seventh in the Conference.

Some Call It an Illness...

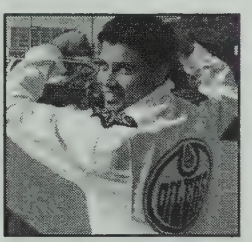
Nitin Bhatia (3L)

Does it still affect every breathing moment of your life? Do you sometimes wake up at night screaming "SCORE!" and realize that your dream had nothing to do with a girl? Well, you are not alone. I find myself dreaming about that exact moment – The third period, Game 7 of the Stanley Cup Finals, Edmonton v. Carolina.

It all seems so clear in my memory....my temporary-Oiler-tattoo-covered-body standing 10 seats away from Gary Bettman and Cuba Gooding Jr., 17th row, center ice of the RBC Center, screaming "GO OILERS GO!" with everything I had left in me after an exhausting 8 hour flight to Atlanta and a 7 hour drive from there to Raleigh, North Carolina.

Yes I was sleep-deprived, yes I had not stopped for a single meal since the moment I left Edmonton, yet I was full of life, fully fresh...knowing quite well that the Stanley Cup would be handed over to the Oilers at the end of the night...a dream I had envisioned for the better half of my life...a dream that was once considered unlikely to ever occur in my youth again was happening before my eyes and all I could do was scream obscenities at Carolina fans while I danced to my favourite Whyte Ave-composed Oiler chants with the Hurricane Cheerleaders....yes...yes it's all coming back to me now...the chants....all six of us Oiler fans in that section screaming "Punani for Pisani!"... "Shirts off for Horcoff!" oh what a beautiful moment. As I stood up on my seat to get ready to lash out with some more anti-Rick Flair comments and American obesity jokes I managed to notice the time remaining on the clock...6 minutes and 18 seconds...we're trailing two goals to one, local playoff wonder Fernando Pisani is rolling down the right side, he receives a tape to tape pass and comes within inches of tying the hockey game but WHOOSH that *%&#$ Cam Ward manages to stack the pads and crush the Oilers hopes of tying the game and my hopes of seeing the Oilers win their 6th Stanley Cup. This is the moment I am talking about...this is the moment that I relive every night...but every night, Fernando scores.

Yes, some people snicker when they hear the name of the term but I genuinely believe that I may suffer from Oiler Fever. Throughout the summer I was confronted about my apparent "problem" by many family members, many friends and fellow classmates and even strangers who happened to notice a certain sadness that followed me wherever I went.



If it's soooo bad, why is it that I don't want to be cured of this condition? And really, why is it that these people are so concerned about my condition? It's not like I am suffering from unrealistic delusions like Iginla actually scoring a clutch goal in the playoffs for the Flames. Nor do I go out and buy a Sundin jersey and tell all my friends 'this is the year baby'. I'm simply someone who is dealing with a temporary delay in seeing my dream come true. But it's good to know that the delay will be quite short...have you seen our new team?!!! Sykora, Lupul, Mikhnov, Hemsky, Torres, Smyth, Horcoff, Pisani...this list of offensive fire-power continues...we are going to dominate! Stanley Cup 2007 baby! Let me hear you scream "WE WANT THE CUP! WE WANT THE CUP!"....ok my doorbell just rung....my parents had mentioned that a fellow dressed in white would be coming by...it appears he's holding some kind of neat jacket with chains and straps on it...What's that sir? You would like me to try it on?

MCLELLAN...

...Continued from front page

speaker present a universally interesting topic. The focus was on the Canadian Government's reaction after the tragic events of September 11th, five years ago. And who would be better to hear from then the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada at the time of the tragedy?

On the other hand, the fact that Anne McLellan was serving as Minister of Justice at the time made her general message predictable - the government acted in good faith as they tried to strike a reasonable balance between collective security and individual freedom. What else would she say? That they acted rashly? Unethically? She stated that the much criticized Anti-terrorism Act was not passed in haste (note, this legislation was passed October 15, 2001, thirty-four days after the attacks in America), and that the government believed, at the time and continues to believe, that it is constitutionally valid. Again, that's not too surprising - surely the government of the day, acting in good faith, would not have enacted an unconstitutional law deliberately!

Anne McLellan

Terrorism, she said, is deliberate violence against civilians for political goals. It has no justifiable cause, it is not excusable. She applauded Canada for being a leader in defining terrorism, and taking a firm counter-terrorism stance. She suggested that counter-terrorism action by governments is an obligation, because terrorism is a threat directly on civilians. Therefore, under section 7 of the Charter (securing the right to life, liberty and security of the person), Parliament has a constitutional *duty* to engage in counter-terrorism. But under the same section, Parliament has a duty to ensure liberty and security of the person from the actions of the state, and the Anti-terrorism Act has been strongly criticized for compromising that. McLellan says, "We struck the right balance." But calling a pink elephant blue doesn't make it blue.

How the Act maintains the precarious balance between collective and individual rights was largely left to the imagination. When asked why the legislation was not referred to the judiciary for a ruling on constitutionality, McLellan answered, rather inadequately, "because we thought it was constitutional." Upon the topic of the much discussed issue of Maher Arar's deportation, there was the similar trend of defending Canadian policy in words, but not with substantial support - Canadian information gathering policies are sound, they just weren't properly followed.

In addressing the concern that preventative arrests are vast departures from criminal law, McLellan suggested that since terrorism is a particular kind of threat to society, it is okay that the criminal provisions look a little different from the criminal laws we're used to. After all, criminal law is not static. The anti-terrorism laws are preventative, she said. We cannot wait for terrorist activities to take place, then prosecute them, and then focus on deterrence, as is the case of "normal" criminal law. As she mentioned on a few occasions, "once they're on the plane, there's no-one left to prosecute." It is fair enough to say that terrorism is different from other crimes, and also that criminal law is malleable. But there was no connection between those statements and the fact that individual constitutional rights were being compromised in many people's eyes. The Anti-terrorism laws look different from normal criminal laws because they prevent rather than deter. Fair enough. But are they constitutional? Are they undue? Were they an over-reaction? Did they result in injustices? Do they open the door to racial profiling? Are they justifiable in a free society?

Perhaps as a result of the target audience, and undoubtedly as a result of being a successful politician for twelve years (that's 105 192 hours!), the McLellan lecture had an overly cautious feel. The main idea relayed to the audience was that the government during September 2001 had "tried their best." There wasn't much reflection on whether their best was good enough for Canada. Those unable to attend the event missed a colourful presentation by a prominent and talented personality. But you don't need to regret it if you thought you would hear that personality say... *something*! (Or at least something you couldn't have guessed a former Minister of Justice to say.)

BASS ACKWARDS

...Continued from Page 9

horn in public). During exam time, when you don't know who to call for notes on that crucial class that you missed the day you totally rocked at court for SLS (even if the judge wasn't in agreement), you will no longer be a smart-ass. After your grades emerge, you will belatedly realize that you have just been a straight-up arse for eight months.

My point is that you have it all bass ackwards if you believe that you can survive law school and beyond by alienating everyone else with your stunning humility (or lack thereof). Upper-years and professors delight in disclosing that your reputation begins on the very first day you take your very first steps into the Law Centre. How you act within this chaotic mish-mash of students will most definitely catch up with you, so think again before you chortle knowingly at another person's expense.

It's only been a month, but judging by my general undergraduate experience, sheer probability dictates that a select few of you goobers are already out there. If you still remain thoroughly unconvinced and are currently perusing this article for typos, I hear there are some volleyballs on loan at the Butterdome.

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Law Guy: Corey

Name: Corey Allan Sandquist
Year: 2L

Where were you born and raised?
Grande Prairie, Alberta.

What is your favorite thing about Home?
Running trails, because they were all hilly and stuff.

If you could go for a beer with one person, dead or alive, who would it be?
George W. Bush, to find out if he is actually as stupid as he seems.

If you were an animal what would you be?
— tiger, grrrr.

Most annoying fashion faux pas?
Socks with sandals & buttoned up short sleeve shirts.

Who is your role model/hero?
SPIDERMAN, He looks great in spandex

Who or What inspires you?
Warren Woo… honestly, the guy defies nature. It's amazing.

The first thing you notice about the opposite sex?
Eyes and facial features, I mean… personality of course.

Words of Advice?
Probably not as good of an idea as you think it is at the time.

Law Girl: Stefanie

Where were you born and raised?
Burnaby, BC.

What is your favorite thing about home?
The mountains. I miss seeing them everyday, and I need them to know which way is North.

If you could go for a beer with one person, dead or alive, who would it be?
Marilyn Monroe, there was so much more than she was ever given credit for.

If you were an animal what would you be?
A Penguin… I don't know why, I just love them.

Most annoying fashion faux pas?
Skinny jeans, because no one looks good in them.

Who is your role model/hero?
Well, one of my undergraduate professors, David McAlister, who encouraged me to come to law school.

Who or what inspires you?
My family… I want them to be proud of me.

The first thing you notice about the opposite sex?
Hmmm…it's gotta be their smile.

Words of Advice?
"It is possible to store the mind with a million facts and still be entirely uneducated."

Name: Stefanie Anne Quelch
Year: 1L

October Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Federal Court Clerkships 2:00-3:00 Rm 113	3 Resumes & Cover Letters 12:00-1:00 Rm 231 Law Student's Philanthrophy meeting rm 105	4 Competition Bureau Opportunities 12:00-1:00 Rm 430 Women's Hockey Free Skate 12:00 Clare Drake Arena	5 Interview Skills 12:00-1:00 Rm 231 Cuts for a Cure Meeting 1:00	6 Last Day to Purchase CANS	7
8	9	10 Clerkship with the Alberta Courts 12:00-1:00 Room 231	11 LEAF Person's day breakfast 7:30-9:30am Tickets $15.00	12 Borden Ladner Gervais Fellowship Reception 3:30-5:00 CN Alumni Hall	13 Mock Interviews	14 Alumni Rugby with After Party!
15	16 Prof. Alan Young: Wrongful Convictions 12:00pm Room 237 & CN Alumni Hall	17 Timelines and Deadlines Seminar 12:00-1:00 Room 231	18	19	20 Rugby Pub Crawl	21
22	23	24	25 OCI - Edmonton & Calgary Firms for 2007 Summer Positions Wine & Cheese Reception for 2Ls 4:00-6:00 Gavel	26 Prof. Stephanie Ben-Ishai - Bankruptcy and the Poor 12:00pm Room 231 Halloween Party!	27	28
29	30	31				

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